



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division
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**OHMVR COMMISSION MEETING
Holtville, CA 92250**

March 2, 2018

STAFF REPORT: OHMVR Program Environmental Compliance
STAFF: Dan Canfield, OHMVR Program Manager
SUBJECT: OHMVR Program Environmental Compliance

Summary

Recently adopted legislation (Senate Bill 249) resulted in statutory changes to California's Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Environmental Compliance Program. The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) will be coordinating with program stakeholders and the OHMVR Commission on implementing these new legal requirements.

Discussion

Highlights of Senate Bill 249 requirements are as follows:

- Review of the 2008 Soil Conservation Standard and Guidelines. By December 31, 2020, DPR in conjunction with the United States Natural Resource Conservation Service, the United States Geological Survey, the United States Forest Service, the United States Bureau of Land Management, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Department of Conservation shall review, and if deemed necessary, update the 2008 Soil Conservation Standard and Guidelines.
- DPR to periodically review and update an inventory of wildlife populations and prepare a wildlife habitat protection plan (WHPP) that conserves and improves wildlife habitats for each state vehicular recreation area (SVRA).
- Soil Conservation Standard, SVRA WHPPs and SVRA monitoring programs must apply best available science.
- Soil Conservation Standard review, SVRA WHPPs and SVRA monitoring program development must provide opportunities for public involvement through public meetings and opportunities for public submittal of written comments.

- Lands to be acquired for SVRAs shall be selected where the need to establish areas to protect natural and cultural resources is minimized, the terrain is capable of withstanding motorized vehicle impacts, and where there are quality recreational opportunities for off-highway motor vehicles.
- SVRAs shall be developed, managed, and operated for the purpose of providing the fullest appropriate public use of the vehicular recreational opportunities present, while providing for the conservation of cultural resources and the conservation and improvement of natural resource values over time.
- DPR must report to the OHMVR Commission any SVRA closures due to noncompliance with Soil Standard or WHPP.

Commission Action

For information only.

Attachments

None